

26th August 1925]

(c) whether it is a fact that the supply from the sluice does not now reach the Palayakayal tank owing to the gradual conversion of dry lands into wet to the extent of 550 acres between Iruvappapuram—Kumarapuram;

(d) whether it is a fact that the Palayakayal tank has now to depend solely on the scanty supply available from the Arumugamangalam tank surplus, which has a direct irrigation of about 350 acres and which also scarcely reaches the Palayakayal tank; and

(e) whether it is a fact that this source is both precarious and unsatisfactory on account of its faulty situation?

A.—(a) & (b) The registered source of supply to the tank is sluice No. 4 of the Peikulam tank under the North main channel of the Srivaikuntam anicut system. No information is available about the alleged contribution from the ryots in 1869.

(c) Yes.

(d) & (e) The tank now gets its supply from the Arumugamangalam tank surplus; the question whether further improvements are necessary has been referred to the Chief Engineer as stated in the answer to question No. 242.

Remission of land revenue on lands under Palayakayal tank.

* 403 Q.—Rao Bahadur CRUZ FERNANDEZ: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the lands under the Palayakayal tank have suffered periodically for want of sufficient supply of water and that, in consequence, Government have been granting remission of land revenue, year after year, on account of failure or poor outturn of crops;

(b) whether it is a fact that a conference of the ryots was held at Iruvappapuram on the 18th May 1925 under the direction of the Sub-Collector, Tuticorin;

(c) whether it is a fact that at that conference it was proposed by the Sub-Collector that a separate supply channel should be provided from sluice No. 1 of Peikulam tank to ensure a regular and sufficient supply to Palayakayal tank and that the ryots have agreed to bear 20 per cent of the cost of the proposed new supply channel; and

(d) what steps have been taken by Government to carry out or investigate the above proposal?

A.—The Government have no detailed information on the points raised; but as stated in their answer to question No. 242 they have received a petition in which reference is made to the meeting with Sub-Collector and the proposals made at it, and they have referred the matter to the Chief Engineer.

Irrigation in Nellore district.

* 404 Q.—Rao Bahadur A. S. KRISHNA RAO PANTULU: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state whether it is a fact that during the investigations of the Irrigation Commission, 1901-03, Nellore district was included in the famine zone of the Presidency along with the Ceded districts?